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Title page

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the

joseph^c

gerig

family

record

1824-1955

COMPILED BY:

SIMON S. GERIG

TURLOCK, CALIFORNIA

NOAH A. GERIG

FLAT RIVER, MISSOURI

*Ma Gerig
205 Emerson
Flat River, Mo.*

1455052

Forward

For some time the decendents of Rev. Joseph P. Gerig and his wife, Marie Anna Schlatter, have felt that a record of their lives and ministry should be made.

The object of this record is to give information as to names, births, marriages, deaths, and some other salient items.

The compilers hope that this record will be a source of interesting and helpful information to the decendents of Joseph P. Gerig.

The Record

The data of this record has been compiled from information gathered from numerous sources and is as nearly correct as is humanly possible. Any errors or omissions that may have occurred are inadvertent.

We wish to express our appreciation to all who have assisted in obtaining data and other valuable information.

"One generation shall praise thy works to another and shall declare thy mighty acts." Psalm 145:4.

Compiled By

**Rev. Simon S. Gerig, Turlock, California
and Noah A. Gerig, Flat River, Mo.**

Historical Sketch

INTOLERANCE IN FRANCE

The principal cause why our ancestors decided to leave France and immigrate to America was the intolerance in matters of faith. The Rev. Joseph Gerig, Sr., and those of like faith were a conscientious people. They were opposed by the Church of Rome, and sometimes by the officers of the State.

They believed it was contrary to the Scriptures for the State to make laws for the control of the church. The State should not train, appoint or pay the salary of the pastors. They of necessity were dissenters from the state-supported church order. These people refused to take an oath in court, nor swear allegiance and loyalty to the Emperor.

Their refusal to baptize their infants was considered a heresy, and to baptize an adult again, upon the confession of his faith was a violation of the church-state law. It was contrary to their doctrine for any member to train for military service, or to bear arms, either for offensive or defensive purposes. The founders of the Amish and Mennonite societies were men of strong convictions concerning the truth, as they saw it. At a great sacrifice, they and their followers in Europe, won victories for the cause of individual freedom of worship that is appreciated by the evangelical churches everywhere.

THE MILITARY QUESTION

The universal military training order in France was a very grievous question for the Gerig ancestors to face. This subject was one of the chief reasons that led to their decision to leave France. The military training was universal. Every man, above a certain age was to be subject to training and to bear arms, whether for guard duty, offensive or defensive service.

A rigorous militarism was developed and enforced at this time, while Napoleon III was Emperor of France. They believed they had to make the choice of obeying the orders of the Emperor, to kill their enemy, or the order of Jesus to love them. Many of them chose to serve time in prison rather than serve in armed forces.

In America, they were told, military training and armed service were voluntary; that this was a peace loving, God-honoring nation and the participation of enforced warfare was not favored by the people, and

that it was unlikely to occur. Taxes for military purposes therefore would be low. Here, they were told they could preach and practice their faith relative to armed training and service.

THE ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

The financial circumstances of the middle class, to which our ancestors belonged, was rather depressing. This was another reason for their decision to leave France. They were not well to do, did not have much of this world's goods. They hoped by their removal, to improve their financial circumstances and some day be able to own their own little farm and a home.

Their farms and gardens in Europe were small. Their plows and harrows were pulled by their cows. There were no lawns, the space up to the house was spaded; the house was surrounded by growing vegetables. Their homes were very simple and not much furniture. The first story of the home, in many cases, was used for what stock and poultry they had; the second story was their living quarters.

They bought the yarn and wove their own cloth and made their own clothes, and some used the Dutch wooden shoes. Many walked long distances to church. Books were few. The public schools were in the towns. Parents, in many cases were unable to send their children to the town school on account of the extra school taxes required.

As a result of these conditions, the only education many children received was the instruction their parents were able to give them. Industries were in, or near the larger cities. The opportunities for a wage-earner were not plentiful. The unskilled laborer seldom received more than 30 cents per day. Many of our ancestors learned the hard way, that "godliness with contentment is great gain."

THE MIGRATION

Thru their friends, the Rev. Joseph Gerig and family in France heard of the liberties to be enjoyed and the prospects of financial improvements that could be expected in America. The day came when they and the group that came with them decided to leave their homeland for a new country across the sea. Farewell meetings were held and "adieux" were said.

They disposed of the goods they could not take with them. Only a limited amount of money could

be taken out of France at that time. In the sail boats of that day it took from 30 to 60 days to cross the Atlantic. Meals were not furnished on the boats; passengers were obliged to furnish the materials and prepare their meals.

Some days the winds were contrary and their boat was driven far out of its course and their progress was greatly retarded. Sometimes they were in danger of reefs and rocks. At other times sickness brought fear and sorrow. Every day they prayed that God should bring them safely to their desired haven. After 40 days and 40 nights of sailing over calm and rough seas, they landed safely in the harbor of New York.

From there, they were still a long distance from their destination. From New York City they could travel by canal or by covered wagon to Erie, Pennsylvania. We are told that the roads were rough, as they followed the trails across the plains and dense forests. From Toledo they traveled the Wabash and Erie Canal to Ft. Wayne, Indiana. The motive power was by horses or by mules.

This canal is still visible along the highway, for many miles from Toledo, through Napoleon, Ohio, and North of Woodburn and New Haven.

From Ft. Wayne north to the old farm, known as the Bishop Joseph Gerig Homestead, was 14 miles of rough roads. This is now known as the Ft. Wayne and Auburn Highway. They carried some baggage, and most of the going was on foot. This Homestead destination was three miles north of Leo.

THE INDIANA HOMESTEAD

Pre arrangements for their future Indiana home had been made. They knew to what tract of land they were going. Nearly all of their 240 acre farm was timberland. Their first home was a log cabin. Farming methods were very primitive; very few tools or machines were available the first number of years.

These pioneers trusted in God to help and prosper their toils. They made use of their strong arms, and their wives very ably assisted their husbands in providing a living. They cleared the forest lands for the growing of crops. In the sweat of their brow they ate their bread, built their cabins, made rude benches and tables. They hunted wild game for their meat and for the fur. They made their clothing, shoes, candles, brooms and nearly all the utensils of every

day use. The historian tells us that they paid their taxes in a log building in Ft. Wayne, and drove over ridge roads, and plank roads; of section by section gravel roads. These were financed by means of tolls. There were toll gates at which they had to pay when they drove over an improved section of a road. There was a time when it was necessary for them to pay at three toll gates on the fourteen miles north of the city.

The early Allen County Records tell of the sacrifices these early settlers had to make, and the debts of gratitude the present generation owes them for bringing the plain and forest under tillage and modern cultivation.

The Family

BIOGRAPHY OF REV. JOSEPH GERIG SR.

Great Grandfather, Joseph Gerig Senior was born in Alsace Lorraine, France, near the town called "Schonensteinbach." The town's name is composed of three German words, which mean: "The little stream that flows over beautiful stones." He was born in June 1786. He was united in marriage to Elizabeth Tehanz, April 8, 1817. To this union three children were born, two daughters, Elizabeth and Barbara, and one son Joseph P. Gerig. His wife died in France, in 1824, seven days after his son Joseph P. was born. Joseph Sr. remained a widower.

In the year 1853, he with his two daughters and one son immigrated to America. They settled on a farm of timber-land, three miles north of Leo, Indiana. Together they cleared land and built their first home, a logcabin. Here he lived with his son Joseph P. for twenty years. He was an active member and minister in the Amish Denomination in France.

After many years of toil and sacrificial service on his farm and in the church, the Master called him months. His body rests in the Lugibihl Cemetery, two and one-half miles Northwest of Leo.

away on December 1873, at the age of 87 years and five
Children:—

Elizabeth, Barbara and Joseph P.

JOSEPH P. GERIG

Rev. Joseph P. Gerig was born in Alsace-Lorraine, France, in the year of our Lord Dec. 23, 1824. He was married in Alsace-Lorraine to Marie Anna Schlatter, in 1848. He was the son of a Christian minister and received his training almost entirely in the home of his father. His call to the ministry came early in life. He was ordained in France as a minister for the German Amish Church.

He served as a pastor in France for a number of years. Later he withdrew from this denomination when a new church was organized in America, known as the Defenseless Mennonite Church. In the United States his ministry continued. His ability as a leader and minister was soon recognized, and he was ordained to the office of a Bishop. His traveling in this office was extensive. He visited Mennonite churches and communities in Canada and in the United States. He responded to many calls for his services. He officiated at weddings, baptisms, funerals, ordinations and dedications.

He loved to read, he informed himself with the events of the times in Europe and in this country. He had a good-sized library.

He was obliged to give part of his time to his large farm, for the support of his growing family. The church of which he was the pastor, one mile east of Leo, Indiana, grew in numbers, and so also the duties of the minister. He made many calls at the homes of the sick, the bereaved, the poor and the strangers in the community.

He was a charter member of the church near Leo, and served as its pastor to the end of his days.

After an active and useful life, at the age of 67 years, his Master called him home. His sacrificial services and labors of love are an inspiration to all those who can recall his life and ministry.

Children:—

Josephine, Barbara, Christian, Joseph, Jr., Benjamin S. and Mary.

MRS. JOSEPH P. GERIG

Marie Anna Schlatter was married to Rev. Joseph P. Gerig in Alsace-Lorraine, France, in the year 1848. She was born in France in the year 1824. Three children, Josephine, Barbara and Christian, were born while they still lived in Alsace-Lorraine, France. Joseph, Benjamin S. and Mary Ann were born in the United States.

Mother Gerig was very industrious and active in

lending a hand wherever she could be of service, in the many activities of the home and the large farm. Her deeds of charity to the needy families were well known.

She assisted her husband in his pastoral duties and often accompanied him in calling on the poor, the sick and the bereaved. She continued in her ministry of love until the Lord called her away, March 2, 1901, at the age of 77 years and six months.

She and her husband were buried in the Lugibill cemetery, 2½ miles northwest of Leo, Indiana.

The Josephine Gerig Family

JOSEPHINE GERIG

Josephine was the oldest of the Rev. Joseph P. Gerig's six children. She was born in Alsace-Lorraine, France, on Feb. 24, 1849. When she was four years old, she, with her parents and grandfather, Mr. Joseph Gerig Sr., emigrated to the United States, in the year 1853. They purchased a farm three miles north of Leo, Ind

Josephine, being the oldest of the daughters, soon took a real share of the work in the country home. She was united in marriage near Leo, Ind., to Jacob Gerig, the youngest son of Rev. John and Ruby Gerig, Sr. on Aug. 17, 1865. Soon after they were married they moved to their farm in Dekalb County, Ind., four miles north of Leo, Ind. Here they built a home and resided for 13 years. In 1883 they left this farm and moved to the farm and home where Josephine, with her parents had settled when they came to this country. Her father and mother, now old but still living on the farm, built another home on the place. Here they resided the remainder of their days. She was the mother of 13 children.

When the youngest of her children, Josephine, was nine months old, the father, Jacob Gerig, passed away, Dec. 23, 1887 at the age of 43 years and three months. In 1905 Mother Gerig sold the homestead and bought a farm near Cedarville, Ind. She lived there until 1916, then sold the farm and moved to a new home in Grabill, Ind.

She was a charter member of the Grabill Missionary Church and greatly interested in the cause of Christian missions. Her deeds of charity and labors of love were well known. On Feb 16, 1930, she was called away to her eternal home.

Children:—

Leah A.—Born May 26, 1866

Anna—Born April 19, 1868.

Benjamin P.—Born August 30, 1869.

Samuel—Born May 14, 1871.

Ida—Born February 9, 1873.

Joseph—Born May 16, 1875.

Jonas F.—Born Jan. 14, 1877.

Martha—Born February 4, 1879.

Simon S.—Born August 11, 1880.

Emma—Born April 28, 1882.

Jacob A.—Born January 16, 1884.

Menno—Born May 15, 1885.

Josephine—Born March 17, 1887.

Deceased:—

Joseph—March 29, 1907.

Jacob (father)—December 23, 1887.

Josephine (mother)—February 16, 1930.

Samuel—October 8, 1895.

LEAH GERIG ROTH

Leah was the oldest of the thirteen children in the family of Jacob and Josephine Gerig. She was born, May 26th, 1866, in Dekalb County, Indiana, four miles north of Leo, Indiana.

On Dec. 1888 she was united in marriage to Henry Roth, son of Benedict and Anna Roth. Henry was born on March 17, 1866. The marriage was performed by an elder of The Defenseless Mennonite Church near Grabill, Indiana. This union was blest with nine children. All of them were born on their farm home near Grabill, Indiana.

In 1918 they retired from the farm and moved to their home in the town of Grabill. Leah was a Charter member of The Grabill Missionary Church where she was an active member and assisted her husband, who was the pastor of the church at Grabill for thirteen years.

On May 26th 1955, Leah observed her 89th birthday. She is still able to visit her children, to write her children are being answered; all of them are active children are being answered; all of them are active in the church.

Children:—

Anna—Born January 27, 1890.

Noah—Born September 4, 1891.

Henry J.—Born April 3, 1893.
Ezra G.—Born June 15, 1895.
Aaron L.—Born March 1, 1897.
Ruth N.—Born August 13, 1898.
Reuben E.—Born August 31, 1900.
Josephine—Born July 11, 1902.
Josiah V.—Born August 8, 1905
Deceased:—
Henry(father)—November 16, 1946.
Henry J.—February 5, 1897.

ANNA ROTH (CLASPER)

Daughter of Henry and Leah Roth.
Born—January 27, 1890.
Married—March 5, 1919 at Grabill, Indiana.
To—John C. Clasper, born in Scotland, January 30,
1886
Children:—
Ruth H.—Born January 27 1920.
Paul D.—Born January 9, 1923.
Deceased:—
Anna(mother)—September 8, 1938 at Rochester,
Michigan.

RUTH HELEN

Daughter of Anna and John Clasper.
Born—January 27, 1920, at Spencerville, Ohio.
Married—May 8, 1945.
To—Clifford Gustafson, born May 4, 1915.
Children:—
David C.—Born October 21, 1946.
Anna R.—Born October 5, 1948.
Christine—Born September 21, 1951.

PAUL D. CLASPER

Son of Anna and John Clasper.
Born—January 9, 1923.
Married—August 27, 1944.
To—Helen C. Alleshouse.
Born—June 23, 1922.
Remarriage:—
John C. Clasper—October 25, 1945.
To—Laura May.

NOAH ROTH

Son of Henry and Leah Roth.

Born—September 4, 1891.

Married—April 27, 1916.

To—Lillie Grabill.

Born—September 26, 1891.

Children:—

Maxine E.—Born July 19, 1919.

Geraldine M.—Born March 15, 1921.

MAXINE E.

Daughter of Noah and Lillian Roth.

Born—July 19, 1919.

Married—August 22, 1943.

To—Glen Head.

Born—March 1, 1919.

Children:—

Bruce D.—Born June 9, 1946.

Joyce E.—Born March 19, 1948.

GERALDINE

Daughter of Noah and Lillian Roth.

Born—March 15, 1921.

Married—May 6, 1943.

To—Tillman Amstutz.

Born—May 9, 1918.

Children:—

Sonja J.—Born March 7, 1946.

Wendel D.—Born July 16, 1949.

EZRA G. ROTH

Son of Henry and Leah Roth.

Born—June 15, 1895.

Married—September 14, 1918.

To—Helen V. Siemens.

Born—December 26, 1891.

At—Buhler, Kansas.

Children:—

Blanchard E.—Born June 26, 1919.

Kenneth M.—Born February 21, 1921.

Vivian H.—Born December 25, 1922.

Margaret R.—Born November 20, 1924.

Mildred Irene—Born November 12, 1926.

Taylor Eugene—Born September 21, 1928.

BLANCHARD E. ROTH

Son of Ezra and Helen Roth.

Born—June 26, 1919.

Married—June 8, 1942.

To—Evelyn Brock.

Born—June 22, 1918.

Children:—

Russell B.—Born January 4, 1943.

Janice E.—Born April 30, 1944.

Susan M.—Born April 2, 1949.

Donald B.—Born April 4, 1953.

KENNETH M. ROTH

Son of Ezra and Helen Roth.

Born—February 21, 1921.

Married—April 1, 1944.

To—Lillian Russell, in China. Born February 14, 1921.

Children:

Deborah—Born August 12, 1950.

VIVIAN H

Daughter of Ezra and Helen Roth

Born—December 25, 1922.

Married—December 31 1945.

To—William Shelton.

Born—April 10, 1919.

Children:—

Brooks E.—Born August 31, 1950.

Elizabeth A.—Born June 11, 1952.

Margaret Clara Born June 12, 1955.

MARGARET

Daughter of Ezra and Helen Roth.

Born—November 20, 1924.

Married—August 27, 1948.

To—Carl Rigney.

Born—July 28, 1925.

Children:—

Daniel C.—Born August 1, 1949.

David R.—Born December 27, 1950.

Martin T.—Born May 17, 1952.

Robert Steven—Born May 23, 1954.

MILDRED I

Daughter of Ezra and Helen Roth.

Born—November 12, 1926.

Married—August 19, 1949.

To—William Kappen.

Born—February 29, 1928.

Children:—

David R.—Born October 18, 1951.

Janice Marie—Born October 15, 1953.

TAYLOR ROTH

Son of Ezra and Helen Roth.

Born—September 21, 1928.

Married—December 22, 1951.

To—Alice Notz.

Born—June 7, 1929.

Children:—

Martha A.—Born May 20, 1953.

Deborah Helen—Born October 14, 1954.

AARON L. ROTH

Son of Henry and Leah Roth.

Born—March 1, 1897.

Married—June 17, 1920, at Pandora, Ohio.

To—Lillian Schumacher.

Born—Nov. 20, 1893.

Children:—

Gorden Henry—Born April 15, 1921.

Cortland Lee—Born November 18, 1922.

Harriet May—Born December 26, 1923.

Miriam J.—Born December 31, 1925.

Isabel C.—Born November 23, 1929.

Deceased:—

Isabel, on November 17, 1937.

CORTLAND L. ROTH

Son of Aaron and Lillian Roth.

Born—November 18, 1922.

Married—July 19, 1949.

To—Leora Gilder.

Born—August 20, 1918.

Children:—

Parbara—Born March 16, 1952.

Ronald Paul—Born November 15, 1954.

HARRIET M.

Daughter of Aaron and Lillian Roth.

Born—December 26, 1923.

Married—August 1, 1948.

To—Kenneth Kleinfelter.

Born—September 25, 1915.

Children:—

James A.—Born August 4, 1950.

Karen Lee—Born June 6, 1954.

MIRIAM

Daughter of Aaron and Lillian Roth.

Born—December 31, 1925.

Married—April 15, 1951.

To—Glen Mann.

Born—January 24, 1930.

RUTH N.

Daughter of Henry and Leah Roth.

Born—August 13, 1898.

Married—August 11, 1922.

To—Arthur S. Dodgson.

Born—April 25, 1901.

Children:—

Stanley M.—Born July 22, 1924.

Kenneth V.—Born March 10, 1926.

Wilfred B.—Born February 21, 1928.

Mildred L.—Born January 20, 1931.

STANLEY M. DODGSON

Son of Ruth and Arthur Dodgson.

Born—July 22, 1924.

Married—July 26, 1946.

To—Geraldine Byerly.

Born—March 6, 1924.

Children:—

Susan G.—Born April 2, 1949.

KENNETH V. DODGSON

Son of Ruth and Arthur Dolgson.

Born—March 10, 1926.

Married—July 4, 1952.

To—Sally Lewis.

Born—August 3, 1928.

REUBEN E. ROTH

Son of Henry and Leah Roth.
Born—August 31, 1900.
Married—October 8, 1921.
To—Florence E. Welty.
Born—August 14, 1900.
Children:—
Kendrick—Born, September 25, 1925.
Linwood E.—Born March 8, 1929.
James W.—Born, September 28, 1941.

KENDRICK L. ROTH

Son of Reuben and Florence Roth.
Born—September 25, 1925.
Married—May 4, 1947.
To Elsie J. Stauffer.
Born—July 29, 1925.
Children:—
Rebecca S.—Born March 10, 1951.
Richard Allen—Born December 30, 1953.

LINWOOD E. ROTH

Son of Reuben and Florence Roth.
Born—March 8, 1929.
Married—July 31, 1949.
To—Nancy E. Lewis.
Born—December 21, 1927.

JOSEPHINE ROTH

Born—July 11, 1902.
Married—December 24, 1923.
To—William J. Schlatter.
Born—January 12, 1901.
Children:—
Margery S.—Born September 5, 1926.
Meredith L.—Born January 18, 1929.
Mary E.—Born April 23, 1931.
Deceased:—
Margery S.—September 5, 1926.

MARY E. ROTH

Born—April 23, 1931.
Married—January 29, 1949.

To—Robert Stout.

Born—November 24, 1925.

Children:—

Kathryn A.—Born October 22, 1949.

Carol M.—Born November 10, 1951.

Mary E. Remarried October 17, 1953 ,to Paul E.

Bruce. He was born September 4, 1931.

Children:—

Janet Lynn—Born May 26, 1954.

JOSIAH V. ROTH

Born—August 8, 1905.

Married—September 2, 1928.

To—Doris Irene King.

Born—November 13, 1904.

Children:—

Muriel L.—Born March 19. 1935.

John K.—September 3, 1940.

ANNA GERIG

Born—April 19, 1868.

Married—November 6, 1890.

To—Peter Ringenberg.

Born—September 20, 1867.

Children:—

Dina—Born February 8, 1892.

Jonas A.—Born February 26. 1894.

Jesse S.—Born October 4, 1895.

Roy E.—Born November 15, 1897.

Simon P.—Born February 11, 1902.

Loyal R.—Born February 3, 1904.

Esther—Born November 17, 1906.

Ernest M.—Born December 3. 1908.

Deceased:—

Anna (Mother) September 20, 1944.

Peter (Father) October 26, 1950.

DINA RINGENBERG

Born—April 8, 1892.

Married—December 6, 1916.

To—Adam Witmer.

Born—August 18, 1896.

Children:—

Eunice—Born December 29, 1918.

Loren A.—Born February 24, 1920.
Reginald R.—Born July 31, 1921.

EUNICE WITMER

Daughter of Dina and Adam Witmer.
Born—December 29, 1918.
Married—October 18, 1941.
To—Kermit Olstad
Born—November 14, 1917.
Children:—
Gary K.—Born November 18, 1942.
Roger K.—Born July 24, 1947.

LOREN A. WITMER

Son of Dina and Adam Witmer.
Born—February 24, 1920.
Married—March 31, 1944.
To—Laurine Thompson at North Dakota.
Born—February 12, 1921.
Children:—
James L.—Born March, 1948.
Michael A.—Born October 16, 1949.
Vicki L.—Born May 26, 1952.
Address: Bakersfield, California.

REGINALD R. WITMER

Son of Dina and Adam Witmer.
Address: Fresno, California.
Born—July 31, 1921.
Married—March 26, 1944.
To—Carol J. Hvidston, at Brinsmade North Dakota.
Born—January 16, 1923.
Children:—
Susan C.—Born March 8, 1949.
Bruce J.—Born October 19, 1950.

JONAS A. RINGENBERG

Born—February 26, 1894, in Indiana.
Married July 8, 1914.
To—Ada E. Witmer, at Minnewauken. N. Dakota.
Born—August 18, 1896.
This union was blest with six children.
Children:—
Morris J.—Born October 10, 1916.
Norman R.—Born August 28, 1918.

Jesse M.—Born December 2, 1920.

Lois—Born April 12, 1923.

Faythe L.—Born June 19, 1925.

Ruth M.—Born April 28, 1929.

Deceased:—

Norman R.—September 30, 1919.

Ruth M.—January 10, 1935.

MORRIS J. RINGENBERG

Son of Jonas and Ada Ringenberg.

Born—October 10, 1916, in Brunsmade N. Da.

Married—October 19, 1946.

To—Margaret J. Ray.

Born—June 17, 1921.

Children:—

Marsha J.—Born September 17, 1947.

Michael J.—Born July 25, 1953.

JESSE M. RINGENBERG

Son of Jonas and Ada Ringenberg.

Born—December 2, 1920.

Married January 29, 1942.

To—Eloise Conley, at Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Born—August 21, 1922.

Children:—

Marlene K.—Born September 21, 1946.

LOIS M.

The daughter of Jonas and Ada Ringenberg.

Born—April 12, 1923.

Married—November 4, 1945.

To—Harold Laymon.

Born—September 10, 1923.

Address:— Grabill, Indiana.

Harold Laymon is a draftsman for the International Harvester Co., Ft. Wayne, Indiana.

FAYTHE L.

The daughter of Jonas and Ada Ringenberg.

Born—June 19, 1925.

Married in First Missionary Church, July 3, 1948.

To—Donald Rohrs.

Born—September 8, 1922.

Address:—Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Children:—

Donna F.—Born August 31, 1951.

Ruth R.—Born October 31, 1952.

JESSE S. RINGENBERG

Was the son of Anna and Peter Ringenberg.

Born—October 4, 1895.

Married—October 23, 1923.

To—Edna Gerig.

Born—September 21, 1899.

They are Missionaries to India.

Children:—

Robert—Born July 24, 1925.

Wallace—Born February 3, 1927.

Dorothy—Born December 21, 1928.

Marilyn—Born November 18, 1933.

Maynard—Born January 6, 1940.

Deceased:—

Robert—September 20, 1925.

Wallace—April 29, 1934.

DOROTHY

Is the daughter of Jesse and Edna Ringenberg.

Born—December 21, 1928.

Married—August 12, 1950.

To—Roger Amstutz.

Children:—

Born—December 3, 1928.

Brenda K.—Born August 26, 1952.

Patti Renee—Born January 16, 1954.

MARILYN G.

Is the daughter of Jesse and Edna Ringenberg.

Born—November 18, 1933. in British India.

Married—July 10, 1954.

To—Calvin Gale Klopfenstein.

Her parents were Missionaries in British India.

ROY E. RINGENBERG

Was the son of Anna and Peter Ringenberg.

Born—November 15, 1897.

Married—March 12, 1934.

To—Dorothy Salisbury, in Indiana.

Born—July 24, 1909.

Children:—

Lois M.—Born December 26, 1934.

Rodney R.—Born June 18, 1945.

Darrell D.—Born June 8, 1946.

SIMON P. RINGENBERG

Is the son of Anna and Peter Ringenberg.

Born—February 11, 1902, at Brinsmade N. Dakota.

Married—February 2, 1929.

To—Ermal Husted.

Born—July 7, 1906.

Children:—

Ann N.—Born March 8, 1930.

Gordon—Born February 17, 1933.

Ruth L.—Born December 17, 1937.

ANN N.

Is the daughter of Simon and Ermal Ringenberg.

Born—March 8, 1930.

Married—April 29, 1950, at Defiance, Ohio.

To—Robert Little.

Born—August 6, 1923.

Children:—

Beverly A.—Born December 17, 1950.

Douglas R.—Born December 13, 1951.

David R.—Born December 13, 1951.

Peter Alan—Born January 29, 1955.

LOYAL R. RINGENBERG

Was the son of Anna and Peter Ringenberg.

Born—February 3, 1904, at Brinsmade, No. Da.

Married—June 2, 1935.

To—Rhoda Roth.

Born—November 12, 1903 near Grabill, Indiana.

Address: Butler, Indiana.

After graduating from the Bible College and Seminary, Loyall devoted his life to teaching, editing of books and magazines.

Children:—

Lenora M.—Born July 22, 1936.

William C.—Born August 18, 1939.

Dorcas E.—Born February 23, 1943.

ESTHER

Was the daughter of Anna and Peter Ringenberg.
Born—November 17, 1906, at Brinsmade, No. Da.
Married—October 4, 1952.

To—David Rahn, at Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Step Children Are:—

Helen Jean—Born February 11, 1934.

Lois A.—Born January 27, 1935.

Florence J.—Born March 17, 1937.

Samuel C.—Born January 5, 1943.

Dennis B.—Born December 2, 1946.

Address: Three Forks, Montana.

ERNEST A. RINGENBERG

Was the son of Anna and Peter Ringenberg.
Born—December 3, 1908, at Brinsmade, No. Da.
Married—December 24, 1936.

To—Anna Graber.

Born—June 30, 1905.

Children:—

Alan A.—Born October 23, 1939.

Carolyn A.—Born February 7, 1945.

BENJAMIN P. GERIG

Is the son of Jacob and Josephine Gerig.
Born—August 30, 1869, in Decalb County, Indiana.
Married—December 1, 1895.

To—Lydia Goldsmith.

Born—December 18, 1871, in Decalb County, Ind.

They were both active members of the Missionary
Church of Grabill, Indiana.

Children:—

Esther—Born January 8, 1898.

Solomon J.—Born September 27, 1900.

Jay—Born August 17, 1903.

Raymond F.—Born October 11, 1906.

Verda—Born January 1, 1912.

ESTHER

Is the daughter of Benjamin P. and Lydia Gerig.
Born—January 8, 1898.

Married—September 14, 1922.

To—Burl Du Vall.

Born—December 20, 1898.

Address: Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Children:—

Darrell—Born January 10, 1926.

DARRELL DU VALL

Is the son of Esther and Burl Du Vall.

Born—January 10, 1926, at Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Married—October 9, 1948.

To—Mary J. Reed.

Born—March 26, 1925.

Address: Fort Wayne, Indiana.

SOLOMON J. GERIG

Is the son of Benjamin P. and Lydia Gerig.

Born—Sep. 27, 1900, 3 miles north of Leo, Indiana.

Married—In 1931.

To—Irene Tyler.

Born—In 1911.

Address: New York City.

Children:—

Sally I.—Born May 21, 1932.

Shelia A.—Born May 5, 1937.

JAY GERIG

Is the son of Benjamin P. and Lydia Gerig.

Born—September 27, 1903, near Leo, Indiana.

Married—August 17, 1935, in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

To—Juanita Lee.

Born—January 12, 1907.

Jay operates a Service Station.

Address: Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Children:—

Sandra S.—Born September 24, 1938.

RAYMOND F. GERIG

Is the son of Benjamin P. and Lydia Gerig.

Born—October 11, 1906, near Leo, Indiana.

Married—In 1929.

To—Naomi Crummitt.

Born—November 27, 1906.

He is employed in Indianapolis, Indiana.

VERDA

Is the daughter of Benjamin P. and Lydia Gerig.

Born—January 12, 1912, near Leo, Indiana.

Married—January 1, 1934.

To—John Nussbaum, at Grabill, Indiana.

Born—June 3, 1906.

John is pastor of the A. B. Simpson Gospel Tabernacle. New York City.

Children:—

John L.—Born March 6, 1943.

SAMUEL GERIG

Was the son of Jacob and Josephine Gerig.

Born—May 14, 1871 in Dekalb County, Indiana.

Not married.

He was a farmer and devoted to the work of the Church. He departed from the scenes of this life on October 8, 1895.

IDA

Was the daughter of Jacob and Josephine Gerig.

Born—February 9, 1873, in Dekalb, Indiana.

Married—February 11, 1896.

To—Samuel C. Witmer.

Born—November 13, 1873.

They lived on their farm near Grabill, Indiana, for some years. In 1952 they moved to their home in Fort Wayne, Indiana. They loved the Lord, His work. His word and they were active in their church.

Address: Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Children:—

Harvey—Born September 22, 1897.

Safara A.—Born January 31, 1899.

Marion E.—Born August 20, 1902.

Naomi—Born October 30, 1904.

Anna M.—Born December 26, 1913.

Deceased:—

Ida (Mother) September 21, 1953.

Anna M.—October 4, 1914.

Naoma—Born, September 21, 1909.

HARVEY WITMER

The son of Ida and Samuel Witmer.

Born—September 22, 1897, near Grabill, Indiana

Married—October 12, 1918, at Grabill, Indiana.

To—Lydia M. Roth.

Born—November 12, 1895.

She was the daughter of the late Rev. David Roth.

Harvey was Supt. of Sunday School for many years.

He is salesman for Patterson and Fletcher Clothier Co., Fort Wayne, Indiana..

Children:—

Kathleen M.—Born, October 27, 1919.

Lavon—Born October 11, 1926.

KATHLEEN M.

The daughter of Harvey and Lydia Witmer.

Born—October 27, 1919, in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Married—February 14, 1945.

To—James Buswell III.

Born—January 12, 1922.

Kathleen is teacher of organ and piano at Wheaton College, Wheaton, Illinois.

Children:—

James IV.—Born December 4, 1946.

He is a pre-teen-violinist.

LAVON

Is the daughter of Harvey and Lydia Witmer.

Born—October 11, 1926, in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Married—August 6, 1949.

To—John Buswell.

Born—February 11, 1928.

Children:—

Elizabeth—Born February 5, 1953.

SAFARA A. WITMER

The son of Samuel C. and Ida Witmer.

Born—January 31, 1899, at Grabill, Indiana.

Married—February 28, 1924.

To—Edith McLean at Grabill, Indiana.

Born—July 18, 1901, in Aberdeen, Scotland.

On March 15, 1945. the Board of Trustees of The Fort Wayne Bible College appointed Safara to the office of President of the College. This office he has held since then.

Children:—

Evangeline—Born March 6, 1926.

Ruth—Born February 1, 1931.

EVANGELINE M.

The daughter of Safara A. and Edith Witmer.

Born—March 6, 1926.

Married—June 16, 1950.

To—Timothy Warner.

Born—December 24, 1924.

Deceased:—

Evangeline was called away on June 26, 1951.

RUTH

Is the daughter of Safara and Edith Witmer.

Born—February 1, 1931.

She is employed at Wheaton College. Wheaton, Ill.

MARION E. WITMER

Is the son of Ida and Samual C. Witmer.

Born—August 20, 1902, at Grabill, Indiana.

Married—August 21, 1926.

To—Bernice Klopfenstein.

Born—February 26, 1906.

Marion is business manager at Taylor University, Bloomington, Indiana.

Children:—

Jean M.—Born April 4, 1930.

Janet—Born September 3, 1941.

Wayne—Born August 26, 1944.

JEAN M.

Is the daughter of Marion and Bernice Witmer.

Born—April 4, 1930.

Married—September 28, 1952.

To—Albert Landis.

Born—December 22, 1928.

JOSEPH GERIG

Was the son of Jacob and Josephine Gerig and was born Dekalb County, Indiana, on May 16, 1874.

He remained a single man. He was employed as a farm hand, and was known as a diligent reader of the Bible.

He was called away on March 29, 1907. He is buried two and one half miles north west of Leo, Indiana, in the Lugibill Cemetery.

JONAS F. GERIG

Is the son of Jacob and Josephine Gerig.

Born—January 14, 1877, in Dekalb County, Ind.

Married—November 7, 1901, at Grabill, Indiana.

To—Clara M. Miller.

Born—January 29, 1876.

When Clara was quite young she loved books and became a public school teacher. For years Jonas has been the custodian of the Ramseyer Memorial Building in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Children:—

Ruth—Born October 5, 1902.

Orpha—Born March 13, 1904.

Jared F.—Born June 29, 1907.

Jason P.—Born December 14, 1909.

Ira A.—Born June 18, 1915.

RUTH

Is the daughter of Jonas and Clara Gerig.

Born—October 5, 1902 in Allen County, Indiana.

Married—February 16, 1924.

To—Clarence Wiederkehr.

Born—October 12, 1897.

Ruth is National Superintendent of "The Sunshine Makers Organization" of the Missionary Church Assn.

Clarence has been in pastoral work and at present is in charge of The Peoria Heights Missionary Church.

Children:—

Gareth—Born January 11, 1925.

Miriam (twin)—Born January 4, 1929.

Marilyn (twin)—Born January 4, 1929.

Naomi—Born March 22, 1932.

GARETH WIEDERKEHR

Is the son of Ruth and Clarence Wiederkehr.

Born—January 11, 1925.

Married—August 3, 1947.

To—Treva Habegger.

Born—August 23, 1929.

They are serving as Missionaries in Gabon. French Equatorial, Africa.

Children:—

Karen S.—Born May 3, 1948.

Ann L.—Born February 8, 1952.

MIRIAM

Is the twin daughter of Ruth and Clarence Wiederkehr.

Born—January 4, 1929.

Married—January 3, 1951.

To—Ralph Ogden, at Lima, Ohio.

Born—May 26, 1929.

At present they are in charge of a prosperous Missionary Church at Celina, Ohio.

MARILYN

Is the twin daughter of Ruth and Clarence Wiederkehr.

Born—January 4, 1929, at Berne Indiana.

Married—June 4, 1954.

To—John R. Stokes.

Born—August 24, 1924.

Marilyn is a graduate of the Fort Wayne Bible College.

Address: Lima, Ohio.

ORPHA

Is the daughter of Jonas and Clara Gerig.

Born—March 13, 1904, in Allen County, Indiana.

Married—December 25, 1928.

To—Edward Lehman.

Born—January 12, 1903.

Children:—

Gaylord—Born September 19, 1932.

LaMar—Born December 18, 1937.

Jerry—Born June 2, 1942.

JARED F. GERIG

Is the son of Jonas and Clara Gerig.

Born—June 29, 1907.

Married—Mildred Eicher, Dec. 22, 1925, in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Born—December 22, 1907 in British India.

Mildred is the daughter of Missionary parents.

Jared is the President of the Missionary Church Association.

Children:—

Wesley L.—Born September 17, 1931.

Gwendolyn—Born November 21, 1932.

William D.—Born February 6, 1937.

Address:—3901 So. Wayne Ave., Fort Wayne, Ind.

WESLEY L. GERIG

Is the son of Jared and Mildred Gerig.

Born—September 17, 1931, at Fort Wayne Indiana.

Married—August 21, 1952.

To—Mary C. Steiner.

Born—September 7, 1931.

Wesley is enrolled as a student at The Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena. California.

GWENDOLYN G.

Is the daughter of Jared and Mildred Gerig.

Born—November 21, 1932 at Cleveland, Ohio.

Married—Arthur Riewald in Los Angeles, Calif.

Gwendolyn is a graduate nurse and is employed in Los Angeles.

Arthur is a student at Fuller's Theological Seminary, and assistant pastor at The Van Nuys Missionary Church.

WILLIAM D. GERIG

Is the son of Jared and Mildred Gerig.

Born—February 6, 1937, in Cleveland, Ohio.

William is now a senior in the South Side High School in Fort Wayne, Indiana. He is planning to enter Wheaton College, in Wheaton, Ill., in the fall semester to prepare for Christian service.

JASON P. GERIG

Is the son of Jonas and Clara Gerig.

Born—December 14, 1909.

Married—May 2, 1934.

To—Esther Smith, at Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Born—April 26, 1911, at Celina, Ohio.

Children:—

Bruce—Born May 27, 1936.

Sue E.—Born March 15, 1945.

IRA A. GERIG

Is the son of Jonas and Clara Gerig.

Born—June 18, 1915.

Married—March 16, 1946.

To—Betty Wagner, in Chicago, Illinois.

Born—January 18, 1927.

Ira is a full time teacher in the Music Department of the Fort Wayne College.

Children:—

Rebecca S.—Born March 15, 1950.

MARTHA

Was the daughter of Jacob and Josephine Gerig.

Born—February 4, 1879. in Dekalb County, Ind.

Married—September 26, 1903.

To—Amos Amstutz.

Born—December 24, 1875, Berne, Indiana.

Children:—

Truman—Born, February 26, 1906.

Harold—Born December 8, 1908.

LaVerne—Born December 10, 1913.

Winfred—Born September 9, 1917.

Deceased:

Amos Amstutz (father), March 25, 1947.

Martha (mother), August 28, 1950.

TRUMAN AMSTUTZ

Is the son of Martha and Amos Amstutz

Born—February 26, 1906, in Berne, Indiana

Married—May 12, 1934.

To—Ella Heiman.

Born—July 1, 1909.

Address: Ft. Wayne, Indiana.

HAROLD AMSTUTZ

Is the son of Martha and Amos Amstutz.

Born—December 8, 1908, at Berne, Indiana.

Married—May 18, 1946.

To—Berneil French.

Address: Fort Wayne, Indiana.

LA VERNE AMSTUTZ

Is the son of Martha and Amos Amstutz.

Born—December 10, 1913, at Berne. Indiana.

Married—May 17, 1937.

To—Pearl Adams.

Children:—

Ronald L.—Born November 12, 1937.

Sandra S.—Born February 2, 1947.

Address: Fort Wayne, Indiana.

WINFRED AMSTUTZ

Is the son of Martha and Amos Amstutz.

Born—September 9, 1917, at Berne, Indiana.

Married—August 26, 1948.

To—Lucille Fisher.

Children:—

Carol E.—Born November 13, 1949.

Paul R.—Born April 29, 1953.

SIMON S. GERIG

Is the son of Jacob and Josephine Gerig and was born in Dakalb County, Indiana. on August 11, 1880. He was married to Sadie Gaiman on Easter Sunday April 23, 1916. Rev. J E. Ramseyer performed the marriage service in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Sadie was born on June 7, 1887, at Pettisville, Ohio. She is a graduate of the Fort Wayne Bible College and ministered as a soloist and teacher. Simon has been pastor He was ordained as a gospel minister in November, 1902.

Children:—

Robert J.—Born July 29, 1918.

Marion L.—Born May 13, 1922.

ROBERT J. GERIG

Is the son of Simon and Sadie Gerig and was born on July 29, 1918 at Swanton Ohio. He was married to Ruth Geyer at Merced, California on March 6, 1940. Ruth was born on May 9, 1915 in Nebraska. Robert operates a sign painter's and Neon Construction Shop in Merced, California. He is active in Christian Business Men's Committee work. Ruth is active as a Central, California District Christian Endeavor Official. Both are active in the Central Presbyterian Church of Merced.

Children:—

Donald Robert was born at Turlock, California on January 8, 1944.

MARION L. GERIG

Is the son of Simon and Sadie Gerig and was born at Fostoria, Ohio, on May 13, 1922. He loves to sing. He has been an employee of the Western Union Telegraph Company at Turlock, California for eleven years.

EMMA L. GERIG

Is the daughter of Jacob and Josephine Gerig and was born in Allen County, Indiana, on April 28, 1882.

She remained single and lived with her mother until 1916, then she and mother moved from the farm, near Cedarville, to the new home in Grabill, Indiana. Mother passed away on February 16, 1930. Since that time Emma has lived in her own home in Grabill. Emma loved to distribute tracts and call on the sick.

JACOB A. GERIG

Is the son of Jacob and Josephine Gerig and was born three mile north of Leo, Indiana on the Gerig homestead on January 16, 1884. He was married to Alice Carnahan on the 25th of November, 1917. Alice was born on January 13, 1897.

Jacob was a prosperous farmer six miles south of Auburn, Indiana.

They were both interested in missions and active in the work of their church.

Jacob passed away June 22, 1951 and is buried in Auburn, Indiana.

Alice has continued operating the farm since Jacob's decease. Through the years she has also been active in The Hopewell United Brethren Church.

Children:—

Carol M.—Born November 20, 1918.

Joy M.—Born April 22, 1926.

CAROL M. GERIG

Is the daughter of Jacob and Alice Gerig and was born November 20, 1918 six miles south of Auburn, Indiana. She was married to John M. Brenneman on June 30, 1949. He was born on February 19, 1921.

Carol loved books and became a public school teacher. John is a prosperous dairyman. Both are active in their church in Lima, Ohio.

Children:—

Brent A.—Born February 22, 1951.

Brice B.—Born January 13, 1954.

Address:—Lima, Ohio.

JOY M. GERIG

Is the daughter of Jacob and Alice Gerig and was born in Dekalb County, Indiana on April 22, 1926. She loved religious education. Graduated from The Fort Wayne Bible College, majoring in Music. Many came to her studio in Fort Wayne for their training in music. Joy was also active in her community as assistant to her pastor at the United Brethren Church at Hopewell, Indiana.

MENNO GERIG

Is the son of Jacob and Joesphine Gerig, and was born on the Gerig homestead three miles north of Leo, Indiana on May 15, 1885. He was married to Zula Sponhauer on March 19, 1913. Zula was born July 14, 1890, on her parents farm, a mile and a half east of The Hopewell Church. They raised a family of six boys and three girls. Menno did diversified farming and prospered.

Menno and his family are faithful in the attendance and support of the Missionary Church in Auburn, Indiana.

Children:—

Eunice J.—Born November 6, 1915.

Lois C.—Born June 12, 1917.

Paul A.—Born June 28, 1919.

Matthias—Born May 8, 1922.

Maurice M.—Born June 22, 1925.

Zenas E.—Born February 27, 1927.

Ardon B.—Born October 4, 1928.

Dale E.—Born November 13, 1929.

Adah R.—Born March 21, 1932.

Address:—

Auburn, Indiana

Deceased:—

Matthias, January 5, 1942.

EUNICE J. GERIG

Is the daughter of Menno and Zula Gerig and was born in the country home three miles west of Spencerville, Indiana on November 6, 1915. Early in life Eunice became interested in home missions. After finishing high school, she enrolled as a student in The Fort Wayne Bible College and graduated with the class of 1940. Since 1946 she has been in full time missionary work with her sister among the under privileged mountaineers of Central Kentucky.

LOIS C. GERIG

Is the daughter of Menno and Zula Gerig and was born three miles west of Spencerville, Indiana on June 12, 1917. After graduating from high school, Lois entered The Fort Wayne Bible College to prepare for missionary work. She graduated from the Bible college in Fort Wayne, Indiana in June 1940, entered full time missionary work in July 1940 among the neglected of Central Kentucky.

PAUL A. GERIG

Is the son of Menno and Zula Gerig and was born in Dekalb County, Indiana. on June 28, 1919. He was in London, England during World War II and there he met Miss Mary Wilson. She became his wife on June 29, 1946. She was born in London, England on February 7, 1924.

Paul has been employed as a mechanic at the Fruehauf Trailer Company, in Fort. Wayne, Indiana, for ten years.

He and Mary are active in their church. Mary likes the U. S. and has come to stay.

Paul was in military service in England for three years.

Children:—

Janet—Born August 24, 1947.

MATTHIAS GERIG

Was the son of Menno and Zula Gerig and was born three miles west of Spencerville, Indiana on May 8, 1922. He was employed at General Electric Co., Fort

Wayne, Indiana.

He was a devoted Christian and at the early age of twenty years, was accidentally drowned in the St. Marys River while skating January 5, 1942. He was buried in the Spencerville Cemetery.

MAURICE M. GERIG

Is the son of Menno and Zula Gerig and was born three miles west of Spencerville on June 22, 1925. He was married to Patricia Carper on September 2, 1950. She was born near Auburn, Indiana on February 14, 1930.

Maurice has been employed for 11 years at The International Harvester Co., Fort Wayne, Indiana. They are both active in their church and especially enjoy Sunday School work. Maurice was in military service in Korea 14 months.

ZENAS E. GERIG

Is a son of Menno and Zula Gerig and was born on February 27, 1927 on his parents farm in Dekalb. County, Indiana. He was married to Esther Lehman on June 12, 1952. She was born November 8, 1931.

Early in life Zenas became interested in missionary enterprises. To prepare for missionary activities, he enrolled as a student at the Fort Wayne Bible College and graduated with the class of 1951. After a post-graduate Seminary course in New York, he volunteered for foreign service. In 1954, he and Esther were sent as missionaries, to Jamaica, West Indies, by The Missionary Church Association.

Children:—

Stephan Jay—Born in New York City on April 3, 1954

ARDON B. GERIG

Is a son of Menno and Zula Gerig and was born three miles west of Spencerville, on October 4, 1928.

After two years of service as a medic in the army, Ardon returned to Auburn, Indiana. where he is employed in the Auburn Clutch Works.

DALE E. GERIG

Is the son of Menno and Zula Gerig and was born in Dekalb County, on November 13, 1929. He was married to Beth Cornell on June 12, 1952, in the Grabill Missionary Church, Grabill, Indiana. Dale and Beth graduated from the Fort Wayne Bible College in 1952, and are now in charge of a Missionary Church at Sturgess, Michigan.

ADAH R.

Is the daughter of Menno and Zula Gerig and was born on March 21, 1932, three miles west of Spencer-ville, Indiana. She was married to John Imler on June 20, 1953 in the Auburn Missionary Church.

Children, none.

John and Adah graduated from the Fort Wayne Bible College with the class of 1953. They are now in charge of a Missionary Church at Hicksville, Ohio.

JOSEPHINE GERIG

Is the daughter of Jacob and Josephine Gerig and was born on March 17, 1887. on the Gerig homestead, three miles north of Leo, Indiana. She was married to Peter Strayer on September 9, 1915. Peter, a United Brethren Minister, was born September 9, 1892, at Maumee, Ohio.

Josephine loved Christian Missions. To prepare for this work, she enrolled in the Fort Wayne Bible College and graduated with the class of 1913.

Children:—

Herald P.—Born February 8, 1920.

Beulah G.—Born May 14, 1926.

James W.—Born May 30, 1929.

Ezra J.—Born February 22, 1932

Address:—

Maumee, Ohio.

HERALD P. STRAYER

Is the son of Peter and Josephine Strayer and was born at Maumee, Ohio, on February 8, 1920. He was married to Opal Frankforter on June 20, 1941.

She was born on February 3, 1914.

Children:—

Larry R.—Born July 31, 1942.

Judith—Born February 25, 1946.

Address:—

Maumee, Ohio

BEULAH G.

Is the daughter of Peter and Josephine Strayer and was born on May 14, 1926 at Maumee, Ohio. She was married to Raymond Ridenour, at Turlock, California, on August 17, 1945. Raymond was born on August 26, 1924. He is in business as an auto mechanic.

Children:—

Gloria M.—Born February 28, 1947.

Barbara L.—Born January 5, 1952.

Address:—

Lansing, Michigan

1455052

JAMES W. STRAYER

Is the son of Peter and Josephine Strayer and was born at Maumee, Ohio, on May 30, 1930.

After serving four years in the United States Navy, James entered a Bible Training Institute to prepare for missionary service.

EZRA J. STRAYER

Is the son of Peter and Josephine Strayer and was born at Maumee, Ohio on February 22, 1932.

He has just completed a four year term of service in the United States Navy.

Barbara Gerig

She was the daughter of the Rev. Joseph P. Gerig and Marie Anna Schlatter and was born in Alsace-Lorraine, France, in 1850. She with her parents, her sister Josephine, and one brother Christian, immigrated to America, and to the Gerig homestead, three miles north of Leo, in 1853.

She was married to John Schlatter in 1871, near

Leo, Indiana. John was a prosperous farmer four miles north-west of Leo, Indiana. They supported and faithfully attended the church of which her father was the pastor, one mile east of Leo. In the fall of 1890, while picking fruit, on their farm, Barbara had a fall from a ladder which resulted in her death. She was well known for her deeds of charity and labors of love.

John continued on their farm for ten years more. They were buried in the Lugibill Cemetery two and one-half miles north-west of Leo, Indiana.

Children: None.

Christian Gerig

Was the son of Rev. Joseph P. and Marie Anna Schlatter Gerig. He was born in Alsace-Lorraine, France, on May 14, 1852. He with his parents immigrated from France in 1853, to the United States and to the Joseph P. Gerig homestead, three miles north of Leo, Indiana.

Christian became an active member of the Defenseless Mennonite Church near Leo, Indiana. He was married to Margaret Yaggy, February 23, 1879. She was born on Nov. 30, 1851 in Allen County, Indiana.

He passed away March 9, 1879, and is buried in the Lugibill Cemetery North-West of Leo, Indiana. Children: None.

Joseph Gerig, jr.

Was the son of Rev. Joseph P. Gerig. Joseph Gerig, was born in Indiana. He grew up to manhood on his father's farm, three miles north of Leo, Indiana. He remained single all his life. He made his home in Leo, near the bank of the Saint Joseph River. By occupation he owned and managed a shop for the repairing of boots and shoes. Through the contacts he made in his business he learned to know many people. He was well known in the community and was a member of The Defenseless Mennonite Church, east of Leo, of which his father was the pastor.

The Benjamin S. Gerig Family

REV. BENJAMIN S. GERIG

Benjamin S. was the son of Bishop Joseph P. and Mary Anna Schlatter Gerig. He was born on his father's farm three miles north of Leo in Allen County, Indiana, on Oct. 14, 1860. On Jan. 9, 1883, he was united in marriage to Lydia Ann Klopfenstein, daughter of the late Michael Klopfenstein.

This union was blest with eight children, all of whom are living. They were born on the farm home, two miles north-west of Grabill, Indiana.

Benjamin had a well kept home. He was a prosperous farmer for many years. His farming methods were observed and were commendable. The hand of the Lord was upon his farm, his home and his family for good.

His father was concerned that his son Benjamin should follow him in his calling as a gospel minister. From boy hood he was a faithful attendant at the church services, and was always ready to be of service when opportunity presented itself. He became an active Christian in early manhood. He received a call by the same church where his father had ministered. one mile east of Leo, Indiana. He accepted this call and began a pastorate among them that continued with blessing for twenty-five years.

He was a diligent servant until, his Lord called him to higher service, on March 31, 1924, having reached the age of sixty-three years and six months.

Their eight children were born in Allen County, Indiana.

They are:

Noah A. Gerig—Born May 13, 1884

Bertha L.—Born January 15, 1886

Ezra S.—Born November 8, 1888

Lillie Ann—Born March 17, 1890

Jesse J.—Born March 11, 1893

David H.—Born October 20, 1896

Alvin A.—Born, July 7, 1898

Frances M.—Born November 3, 1908

Deceased:

Benjamin S. (the father), passed away Mar. 31, 1924

NOAH A. GERIG

Is the son of the late Benjamin S. and Lydia Gerig and was born near Leo, Indiana, on May 13, 1884. He was married to Lulu E. Buskirk at the Buskirk farm home 9 miles South-west of Fort Wayne, on May 13, 1914. Lulu was born near Sheldon, Indiana, on June 5 1887.

From boyhood Noah was interested in education and music and later became a public school teacher. He and his son Carroll edit and publish a daily newspaper, at Flat River, Missouri, their home city.

Noah and Lulu are active in their church, and love its work.

Their children are:—

Ella May Born June 12, 1916.

Whetten S., Born July 15, 1922.

Carroll B., Born Oct. 7, 1925.

Deceased:

Ella May, June 12, 1916.

Whetten S., June 1, 1945.

Lulu (the mother) July 23, 1955.

WHETTEN S. GERIG

Was the son of Noah and Lulu Gerig and was born on July 15, 1922, at White River, South Dakota. He was a lover of books and continued his education as a medical student in Washington University when he enlisted for training and the service of his country.

It was while he was in line of duty in the armed forces, that in the providence of God, he was killed in an airplane accident at Pensacola, Florida, on June 1, 1945. His body rests in the Nine Mile United Brethren Cemetery seven miles south-west of Fort Wayne, Indiana.

CARROLL B. GERIG

Is the son of Noah and Lulu Gerig and was born on October 7, 1926 at White River, South Dakota.

He was married to Dorothy Ann Deneke on July 31, 1949. She was born on September 14, 1926 at Morehouse, Missouri.

Carroll is co-publisher with his father, publishers of a Daily Paper at Flat River, Missouri.

Children:—

Robert Carroll, Born August 14, 1952

Mary Ann. Born June 11, 1955

Address: Flat River, Mo.

BERTHA L. GERIG

Daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Benjamin Gerig was born January 15, 1886. She was married to Aaron Souder, December 24, 1904.

Children:—

Harold Paul, Februray 15, 1908

Kathryn Cecelia, November 17, 1909

Kermit Lavern, June 16, 1914

LeEtta Alline, March 24, 1916

Deceased:

Aaron (father) November 16, 1919

Harold P. October 30, 1922

Kathryn C., February 20, 1915

Kermit L., July 26, 1916

LeEtta A., November 7, 1919

AARON SOUDER

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Christian Souder was born and grew up on his father's farm near Grabill Indiana. He became a popular young man in Allen County, Indiana. Early in life he took interest in the news, in books and in the Bible. He was converted in his youth. After receiving a common school education, he continued his educational preparation enabling him to teach in the pnblc school. He held a life teaching certificate.

Aaron was also appointed as the post-master of his town. The young people of his time, have fond memories of the community gatherings in the school houses for the purpose of training in the rudiments of vocal music and notation. He introduced many songs and chorusus that are still being used.

These community "Sings" served another interesting purpose. This became "date" night for the young people. Incidentally, Aaron the director, was also courting a fair dame at the time who later became his wife— cousin to the writer! They came to these rallies together. with other young people and enjoyed pleasant evenings together.

Aaron was active as song leader and teacher in the Sunday school and of the church that he attended, one mile east of Leo, Indiana. His interest and ability as a leader in the work of the church brought him to the front as one who might be able to supply the pulpit. At a meeting called for the purpose, the

membership elected him as its pastor, and this office he filled with blessing and good success for a number of years. He was one of the organizers of the Brotherhood Aid, a property Insurance organization, under the direction of the Mennonite Church, which has had a tremendous growth.

He with his family lived in Grabill, Indiana. After a brief illness his Master called him to higher service, having reached the age of 39 years.

Bertha was married to Edward H. Gardner on September 27, 1930. He was born on August 5, 1884 at Erie, Kansas.

Address, Convoy, Ohio.

Edward Gardner (a widower) had five children:—

Lena, Born May 17, 1907

Inas, Born February 13, 1909

Esther, Born March 18, 1913

Joyce, Born January 31, 1922

Dwight, Born March 22, 1927

EZRA S. GERIG

Is the son of Benjamin S. and Lydia Gerig and was born on November 8, 1888. He was married to Rosa L. Scherzinger. She was born on September 5, 1892 at Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Address: Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Children:—

Elizabeth Jane, Born June 15, 1916

Kathryn Marie, Born February 5, 1920

ELIZABETH J. GERIG

Is the daughter of Ezra and Rose Gerig and was born on June 15, 1916. She was married to Paul Henry Angel on February 9, 1942. He was born September 8, 1918 at Chicago, Illinois.

Children:—

Kathryn E., Born September 12, 1945

Paul H. Jr., Born June 16, 1948

Rosemary Suzanna, Born in England, May 13, 1953

KATHRYN MARIE

Is the daughter of Ezra and Rosa Gerig and was born on February 9, 1920. She was married on August 17, 1945 to James Nisbet. He was born on February 9, 1915, at Van Wyck South Carolina.

Children:—

James D., Born January 20, 1947

John S., Born May 16, 1949

Mary M., Born June 6, 1952

Address: Pittsburg, Penn.

LILLIE ANN

Is the daughter of Benjamin S. and Lydia Gerig and was born on March 17, 1890, in Allen County, Indiana. She was married to David Rediger on January 1, 1913. He was born on February 28, 1890, near Gridley, Illinois.

Children:—

Clarissa M., Born June 7 1914,

Marion J., Born February 15, 1917

Address: Spencerville, Indiana.

CLARISSA M.

Is the daughter of David and Lillie Ann Rediger and was born on June 7, 1914, in Allen County, Indiana. She was married to Charles Furnish on February 23, 1952. He was born at Spencerville, Indiana on November 26, 1905.

Address: Spencerville, Indiana.

MARION J. REDIGER

Is the son of David and Lillie Ann Rediger and was born on February 15, 1917, in Allen County, Indiana. He was married to Olive Harrold, June 20, 1940 at Birbeck, Illinois. She was born June 13, 1915.

Children:—

Donald Lee, Born July 14, 1942

Yvonne G., Born August 11, 1943

Marion R. Born. August 4, 1947

Address is: Spencerville, Indiana.

JESSE J. GERIG

Is the son of Benjamin S. and Lydia Gerig and was born in Allen County, Indiana, on March 11, 1893. He was married to Huldah Stucky on November 17, 1914. She was born on January 25, 1897 in Adams County, Indiana.

Address: Grabill, Indiana.

Children:—

Jesse Jr., Born August 15, 1918

Paul R., Born November 8, 1925

Deceased:

Robert S., August 16, 1917

JESSE GERIG JR.

Is the son Jesse J. and Huldah Gerig and was born on August 15, 1918. He was married to Iva M. Hodges on May 1, 1943. She was born in Mississippi on October 15, 1919.

Children:—

Barbara K., Born August 29, 1945

Michael J., Born April 11, 1950

Address: Grabill, Indiana.

PAUL R. GERIG

Is the son of Jesse and Huldah Gerig and was born on November 8, 1925. He was married to Christine Steiner, on August 20, 1949. She was born at Pandora, Ohio on April 8, 1930.

Children:—

Mark Sheldon, Born July 30, 1954.

Address: Grabill, Indiana.

DAVID H. GERIG

Is the son of Benjamin S. and Lydia Gerig and was born in Allen County, Indiana on October 20, 1896. He was married to Josephine Souder, at Berne Indiana on February 3, 1918. She was born at Berne Indiana, on May 23, 1896.

Children:—

David H. Jr., Born December 2, 1918

James. Born January 12, 1922

Address: Fort Wayne, Indiana.

DAVID H. GERIG, JR.

Is the son of David and Josephine Gerig and was born on December 2, 1918. He was married to Rosemary Debolt, February 14, 1947. She was born March 9, 1928.

Children:—

Jonni L., Born November 11, 1948

Jerri D., Born December 23, 1950

David III, Born June 4, 1953

Address:

3315 E. Culver
Phoenix, Arizona

JAMES W. GERIG

Is the son of David and Josephine Gerig, and was born January 12, 1922. He was married to Lorraine Roberts, June 20, 1949. She was born March 31, 1928.

Susan Josephine, Born January 28, 1955

Address: 18013 Rancho, Encino, Calif.
33, 1902.

ALVIN A. GERIG

Is the son of Benjamin S. and Lydia Gerig and was born on July 7, 1898. He was married to Lowneta G. Souder on April 20, 1920. She was born on August 3, 1902.

Address: Hicksville, Ohio.

Children:—

Keith La Von, Born August 16, 1921

Willodean J., Born January 18, 1925

KEITH L. GERIG

Is the son of Alvin and Lowneta Gerig and was born on August 16, 1921. He was married to Bernida Brackney on January 30, 1942. She was born at Ottawa, Ohio, on January 30, 1922.

Children:—

Bruce E., Born February 17, 1944

Phillip L., Born September 25, 1948

WILLODEAN J. GERIG

Is the daughter of Alvin and Lowneta Gerig and was born on January 18, 1925. She was married to Edward A. Durfey on January 16, 1944. He was born at Hicksville Ohio, on January 17, 1923.

Children:—

Judy Ann, Born March 8, 1945

Vickie Sue, Born May 25, 1948

FRANCES MARIE GERIG

Is the daughter of Rev. Benjamin S. and Lydia Gerig. She is the youngest of their eight children. All of them are still living. She was born on November 3, 1908, two and one half miles Northwest of Grabill. Indiana. She was married to Denver N. Stucky on October 17, 1935.

Denver was born on September 17, 1913, at Archbold, Ohio. He has been a successful auctioneer and livestock salesman at Archbold, Ohio.

Children:—

Charlene Ann, Born February 23, 1937

Burdette Lee, Born September 28 1940

Max Eugene Born January 8, 1944

David Nathan, Born April 14, 1948

Sara Jane, Born September 29, 1949

All the children are living.

Address: Archbold, Ohio.

The Mary Stucky Family

MARY ANN GERIG

Mary Ann Gerig was the youngest of the seven children of the Rev. Joseph P. and Anna Gerig. She was born fifteen years after her parents immigrated from France to the Gerig homestead, three miles north of Leo, Indiana. She was born in Allen County, Indiana, on Oct 1, 1865.

Mary remained in the parental home as a faithful helper and support of her ageing parents, until Jacob Stucky Jr. came along and with the consent of her father became his bride. Nov. 2, 1885, near Leo, in Allen

County, Indiana. They established their home in Dekalb County, Indiana, four miles north of Leo. Here they built an addition to their happy home and raised their children. All of them assisted their parents in the conduct of a prosperous country farm and home.

Mary and Jacob with their children faithfully attended and supported the church of which her father Joseph P. Gerig was the pastor. For their spiritual welfare he was always much concerned.

The children are:

Noah, Born June 13, 1887.

Albert, Born August 22, 1889.

Anna, Born, Feb. 10, 1892.

Joseph, Born, Feb. 6, 1894.

Lavina, Born, July 2, 1897.

Jesse, Born, May 31, 1902.

Crystal, Born, Sept. 25, 1905.

After a busy and useful life, Mary was called away by her Lord whom she served. on July 29, 1952. having reached the age of 86 years and 10 months.

Her husband Jacob was born on Oct. 12, 1862. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Stucky Sr. He came to this country with his parents as a boy, from Alsace Lorraine, France. He supported his parents on a prosperous farm in Dekalb County, Indiana. After he married Mary Ann Gerig, they established their own home on their farm five miles north of Leo, Indiana. Their latter years were spent in their home in Leo, Indiana. After an active and useful life, Jacob was called away on Dec. 12, 1948, having reached the age of eighty-six years and three months.

Deceased—

Lovina, a daughter, was born in Dekalb County, Indiana, on July 2, 1897.

After three short years she passed away on October 11, 1900.

NOAH STUCKY

Is the oldest of the seven children of Jacob and Mary Stucky and was born in Dekalb County, Indiana, on June 13, 1887. He was married to Emma Lederman on Easter Sunday, March 27, 1921, at the Mennonite Church in Leo, Indiana.

Emma is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Lederman, and was born in Allen County, Indiana, on November 22, 1894. They are devoted to the work of their church.

For nine years Noah has been employed by The Meyer Drug Company of Fort Wayne, Indiana.

They reside in Leo, Indiana.

ALBERT STUCKY

Is the son of Jacob and Mary Ann Stucky and was born on August 22, 1889, five miles north of Leo, Indiana, in Dekalb County. He was married to Anna K. Stucky on April 9, 1914 at the Mennonite Church of Leo, Indiana. She was the daughter of Christ and Fanny Stucky of Allen County, Indiana. Albert has been employed by the Leo Builders Supply and Lumber Co., for five years.

Children:—

Paul R., Born March 14, 1916

Verdon Jay, Born September 17, 1918

PAUL RAY STUCKY

Is the son of Albert and Anna K. Stucky. He was born on March 14, 1916. He was married to Leta Casey

Children:—

Stephen Ray Stucky, Born April 22, 1942

Ronald Paul Stucky, Born March 4, 1944

VERDON JAY STUCKY

Is the son of Albert and Anna K. Stucky. He was born on September 17, 1918, and was married to Frances Fritz.

Children:—

Judy Ann Stucky, born April 23, 1945.

ANNA B. STUCKY GRATZ

Is the daughter of Jacob and Mary Ann Stucky and was born in Dekalb County, Indiana, February 10, 1892.

She was married to Russel Gratz. He was born October 28, 1891, They reside in Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Laural B. born November 7, 1914. Laural was married to Freda Newhouser.

Deceased:

Laural B., February 12, 1954

JOSEPH STUCKY

Joseph is the son of Jacob and Mary Ann Stucky and was born in Dekalb County, Indiana on February 6, 1894. He was married to Helen Magdalene Albert, on August 30, 1939. Helen was born on September 15, 1910.

Joseph and Helen reside near Fort Wayne, Indiana, where he has been employed for thirty-two years by a Meat Packing Industry in that city.

No Children.

JESSE J. STUCKY

Is the son of Jacob and Mary Ann Stucky. He was born on May 31, 1902 and was married to Garnet E. McCrory on August 20, 1936. She was born on October 12, 1904.

No Children.

CRYSTAL STUCKY

Is the youngest of the seven children of Jacob and Mary Stucky and was born in Allen County, Indiana on September 2, 1905.

She was married to Erwin Yoder on April 2, 1927, at Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Erwin was born on October 11, 1900, in Allen County, Indiana. By occupation he was a carpenter.

Children:—

Edward Leon, Born July 16, 1929, in Auburn, Ind.

Marie, Born February 4, 1928, Auburn, Indiana

Deceased:

Erwin, (father) passed away May 27, 1954, in Auburn, Indiana. He was buried in Auburn.

Testimonials

STATEMENT BY PASTOR

SIMON S. GERIG

The influence of a Christian home led me to acknowledge my need of a Saviour at an early age. At the age of 17, while Rev. J. E. Ramseyer was preaching the gospel in our country church, sitting on the right side of a black stove, the burden of sin was lifted and peace came. The Lord filled me with His spirit and called me from between the plow handles to go as His messenger.

At age 19 to 21, I attended the Light and Hope Bible Institute, at Berne, Indiana, and at Cleveland, Ohio. After four years as pastor in Missouri and Swanton, Ohio, I entered Ohio Northern University for further training, and graduated with the class of 1907, receiving the bachelor's degree.

After pastoring, what is now the First Missionary Church in Cleveland, Ohio for five years, I enrolled at The Baldwin-Wallace Seminary for further preparation for the teaching and preaching ministry. After a second pastorate at Swanton, Ohio, and Amherst, Ohio, I met the best girl, Sadie Gaiman at Fort Wayne and we were married on Easter Sunday in 1916.

Other pastorates were, in Ohio, at Brailey, Sharpels, Fostoria and Riley Creek. For five years I was pastor at Salida, Colorado, and for twelve years in charge of the church at Mitchell, California. Writing and distributing thousands of pieces of gospel literature have occupied my time in recent years.

As the senior minister of the Rev. Joseph P. Gerig's descendents, I can say that God has blest the labors. To Him be all the glory.

STATEMENT BY MISSIONARY

JESSE RINGENBERG

"The grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus"—1 Tim. 1:14.

Wonderful exhaustless grace which Jesus Christ has exemplified and so freely supplies!

He sought me, saved me when a boy of fourteen, filled me with His Spirit, and called me from the mail route to prepare for the ministry. While in

training I was increasingly impressed with the deprivations and needs of India. The Lord gave me a loving and efficient helper in Miss Edna Gerig. We sailed in 1922, ten months apart, and were joined in marriage in 1923 in Ahmedabad, after she had completed her first year of language work. Serving with the Christian and Missionary Alliance in Gujarat, about 300 miles due north of Bombay, we have had the joy of preaching the blessed Gospel in many villages some that had never heard, and of seeing many follow the Lord in baptism.

We have rejoiced and wept with our brethren in that land. What a satisfaction it has been to see individuals and churches grow in the Lord and to have men and women in pioneer fields, whom we have had a part in training. Still half of India's population wait for adequate knowledge of the grace of Christ. We plan to return in August 1955 for our fifth term of service.

May we all have a share in making up His jewels for that Day.

Jesse S. Ringenberg

HIGHLIGHTS OF MY MINISTRY
LOYAL R. RINGENBERG
BUTLER, INDIANA

Since "shoving off" from our Dakota farm I have taught public school in North Dakota; pastored churches at Auburn, Indiana, and New Brighton, Pennsylvania; taught for fourteen years at the Fort Wayne Bible College; and from 1948 to the present have served as Literary Editor at the Highley Press. My major work consists of editing and writing half or more of two 320 page annual commentaries on the Sunday School lesson, one on the International Council series and the other on the National Sunday School Association series. A year ago I was able to complete a 500 page text book in Bible survey — the result of work begun as far back as 1932. The book will have a second printing this summer. Under God, the greatest boon in my ministry has been the heritage of godly parents, and the devoted help of my good, efficient, and faithful wife, Rhoda.

STATEMENT BY
REV. SAFARA A. WITMER

The Lord has been very good to me — He saved me, called me, gave me a fine companion, and led me into many opportunities of service. I was in a pastorate for three years, in the Air Force chaplaincy for two years, and the remainder of my life has been given to Fort Wayne Bible College, a total of 25 years. Most of my education has been sandwiched between. Five years of undergraduate work, two at Fort Wayne, one with Indiana University, and two at Taylor University, led to an A.B. The equivalent of one year of graduate studies to a M.A. at Winona Lake School of Theology.

After a few graduate courses with Indiana University, two years of work at the University of Chicago led to a Ph. D. Then there was also an honorary L.D. from Wheaton College.

But there have been many opportunities of service outside the college. A textbook used in Bible institutes, Christian colleges, and seminaries has gone into five editions. I have had the privilege of fellowship with many educators in the Accrediting Association of Bible Institutes and Bible Colleges, and serve now on its Executive Committee.

It's a busy life, but I enjoy it, and give God all the glory.

STATEMENT BY PASTOR
JONAS RINGENBERG

At the age of seventeen I heard the call of God to the ministry but felt that I could not pay the price of thus following the Lord. After rebelling against this call for approximately four years, God finally gave grace to say yes to that call. Accordingly on May 25, 1917 we left home for our first appointment as an assistant pastor.

In the fall of that year a call was extended to us to become the pastor of the church in Brinsmade, N. D. We accepted that call and continued in that field for three years there we were requested to go to Milford, Nebraska as pastor of the Mennonite Brethren in Christ Church, thus releasing

brother Hygema to teach in the Fort Wayne Bible School.

After five years at Milford the call was pressed upon us to become the pastor of our home church at Grabill, Indiana. Here God gave us a fruitful ministry for ten years. Next we went to Archbold, Ohio for four years after which we were urged to become Superintendent of the Central District of the M. C. A. Before the fifth year in that field was completed the President of the M.C.A., Rev. J. E. Ramseyer, passed away and the lot of filling that post as well as that of Acting President of the Bible Institute fell to our lot which latter post was relinquished after one and a half years. We continued as President of the M.C.A. until September of 1952, after which we were asked to go to Jamaica to labor in the field in which we are at present engaged.

Beside these duties it was my privilege to serve the M.C.A. as Editor of the Missionary Worker for more than 14 years. Also to serve as Vice-president of the M.C.A. and to serve on the General Committee and the Bible College Board for many years.

Throughout these years we have been continuously conscience of the leading of the Lord and can say with the apostle, "I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision," and with Samuel, "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us."

Truly,

Rev. Jonas A. Ringenberg

43 Burlington Avenue,

Half Way Tree, Jamiaca, B.W.I.

STATEMENT BY

DR. EZRA ROTH

Writing on my sixtieth birthday I thank God for generations of rich Christian heritage. Born into a good Christian home I early accepted Christ as my Lord and Saviour.

A three year period of school teaching was followed by training for the ministry, marriage and then a happy married life. Following seven years of missionary service in China under the auspices of the Miss-

ionary Church Association and the Christian Missionary Alliance, I spent three years in completing College and Seminary work in Wheaton and Chicago. We have spent fourteen years in pastoral ministry in Michigan and Illinois. This past fourteen years have been spent serving as Executive Secretary of the Wisconsin Baptist State Convention in affiliation with the American Baptist Convention.

In all these relationships we have found fine Christian fellowship and challenging opportunity for service.

My appreciation for Christians of all varieties, nationalities and races grows with my maturing knowledge of God and His eternal purposes for all for whom He died and to whom He has become divine Lord and Saviour.

Blessed with six vital Christian sons and daughters, well married, with eight grandsons and eight grand daughters, like Enoch of old, it is our aim and purpose to walk here with God until He sees fit to take us unto Himself.

Dr. Ezra Gerig Roth

Milwaukee, Wis.

THE HONOR ROLL

The following have taken Military Training, some were in active combat service

Arthur S. Dodgson

Kenneth Roth

William Shelton

Carl Rigney

William Kappan

Kenrick Roth

Meredith Schlatter

Loren Witmer

Reginald Witmer

Calvin Klopfenstein

Gordon Ringenberg

Robert J. Gerig — Sign Painter

Timothy Warner — Technician

Safara A. Witmer — Chaplain, Captain

James Buswell III, 1st Lt.

Arden Gerig

Ira Gerig

James Strayer

Ezra Strayer

Raymond Ridenour

Gareth Wiederkehr

Carroll B. Gerig

Morris Gerig

Morris J. Ringenberg

Jesse Ringenberg

Margaret Pay Ringenburg

Jesse Gerig, Jr.

Ensign Whetten S. Gerig

The History in Rhyme

(Given at The John Gerig Reunion, Sept. 1, 1930)
(John Gerig and our ancestor, Joseph Gerig were brothers)

(Used by Permission)

It truly is delightful to meet in this way,
On this pleasant annual Labor Day;
A history of the Gerig family I'd like to give
'Twas in France they first did live.
A small rented plot of land they had,
And farming—it with cows was rather bad.
It had high hills with low marshy land;
One place trembled when upon it they'd stand.
'Twas very little by farming they made,
For Grandpa was a weaver by trade;
On this trade he worked hard and long,
And so they got fairly well along
As weavers they had so many clothes to wear,
They did not worry when one garment did tear;
Sometimes they put off washing for many a day,
And still had plenty of clean clothes laid away.
There were eight children in the family, you see—
Six sons and two daughters, all known to me;
Uncles: Christ, Joseph, Andrew, John, Peter, and Jake,
Aunt Barbara, Magdalena, my mother, eight did make
Aunt Barbara was the oldest of them all,
Uncle Jake the youngest, whom I but faintly recall.
My mother never went a day to school,
She early worked hard at the weaver's tool;
As she was quite apt, and quick to learn,
'Twas thought best she help a living to earn;
Yet mother could read as I seldom heard,
'Twas so easy for her to pronounce a hard word;
She could memorize Scripture, and many a song,
And repeat whole chapters, although they were long.
Their house and barn was under one roof.
'Twas built of stone and strong weather-proof;
There was no costly furniture around,
And the floor was just the bare ground.
One thing of which mother often did tell
Was a strong artesian, flowing well;
Flowing summer and winter, day and night,
Clear as crystal, to drink of it was a delight.

Grandpa was a preacher of the old Amish church,
This was a great burden causing him much to search,
As he could not memorize very well,
His burden was greater than one could tell.
On Sundays they walked nine miles to church,
They had plenty of time to meditate and search;
Sometimes they would stop for a lunch on the way,
As some bakery so as not to faint by the way.
As in France boys to manhood did grow,
They were compelled to the army service to go;
Grandpa Gerig was not so inclined to do,
As he also of America's freedom knew.
So arrangements were made for this long trip,
And in 1852 boarded an old sail-boat ship.
In those days passengers their own meals had to cook,
Uncle Joseph's lot was after this matter to look;
The voyage was rough, and very long;
Much they endured, with fewness of song;
Often the waves beat wild and high
Drenching those on deck, causing a wild cry.
Some days they made good progress ahead,
Sometimes they were driven about as far back,
Often times they were driven out of their track,
And feared they would suffer ship-wreck.
One time a man on the ship passed away,
They soon knew where to lay him away;
'Twas little if any ceremony they gave,
They sank him in the watery grave.
After about forty days at New York they did land.
The ground seemed to be moving, they could
hardly stand;
Then all their trunks were stolen away,
They searched for them many a day.
The man that hid them helped in searching too,
But left off, when once the hiding place they knew.
They finally got their trunks again,
And leaving New York they boarded some train.
Onward toward their destination they came,
But they must take a dreaded voyage again.
This voyage on Lake Erie they dreaded enough,
For it was reported as being awful rough;
But they were brought safely through again,
And then to the city of Toledo they came.

From Toledo to Fort Wayne on a canal they came,
The boat was drawn by mules that were tame;
So this trip also took some time,
As it was no twentieth century line.
The trace of the canal can still be seen,
North-west of Woodburn, and the river bridge it's
in between.

From Fort Wayne to Leo then they came,
Walking all the way, as there was no train;
There were no paved or concrete roads,
They made slow progress with their loads.
There was so much of timber land,
And lots of mud and little sand;
But they came through without any harm,
And finally landed on the Abe Steiner farm.

Things were so inconvenient in those days.
Many hardships they endured in so many ways;
The country too was quite swampy and wet,
And often times a shaking fever they would get,
They were unused to farming the American way,
And often did hard work that did not pay;
They would spade the sod about the house,
The bare ground of France their memory did rouse.

Then after a few years of hardship and toil,
The time came for Grandpa to leave the spoil;
And some years later Grandma too passed away,
For in this world we've not long to stay.
As time went on, all their children too were laid away,
Awaiting the resurrection of that great day.

We hope to meet them in that better land,
Greeting them with joy, grasping their hand;
This pilgrim life will soon be past,
What will it be to be home at last?
So let us faithfully toil and journey on,
Until the final race and victory is won;
May none be missing at that great day,
To this end let us for each other pray.

N. E. Grabill.

Note:

In writing this history, no doubt errors were made
as some of these things from my memory did fade;
so please bear with me and mistakes overlook, as
I'm no author and have never written a book.

Recognition Roll

Recognition is hereby given to descendants of the Rev. Joseph P. Gerig family. who were engaged in, or are now in, active Christian service, as teachers, ministers of the Gospel. evangelists or missionaries in foreign lands:

Jonas A. Ringenberg, missionary in Jamaica.

Ada Ringenberg, missionary in Jamaica.

Jesse S. Ringenberg, missionary in India.

Edna S. Ringenberg, missionary in India

Ezra G. Roth, missionary in China.

Helen Roth, missionary in China.

Zenas E. Gerig missionary in Jamaica.

Esther Gerig. missionary in Jamaica.

Gareth Wiederkehr, missionary in Africa.

Treva Wiederkehr, missisnary in Afrca.

Eunice J. Gerig, missionary in Kentucky.

Lois C. Gerig, missionary in Kentucky.

Benjamin S. Gerig. pastor.

Aaron Souder, pastor and teacher.

Josiah V. Roth. pastor and teacher.

Aaron L. Roth, pastor and teacher.

Loyal R. Ringenberg, author and teacher.

Ira A. Gerig, teacher and musician.

Wesley L Gerig, pastor.

Winfred Amstutz, pastor.

John Imler, pastor.

Stanley Dodgson, pastor and teacher.

Ruth (Gerig) Wiederkehr. National Superintendent,
Sunshine Makers. M C. A.

William Schlatter, pastor.

Safara A. Witmer, President, Fort Wayne Bible College, M. C. A.

Glen Head, pastor.

Tillman F Amstutz, pastor.

Donald Rhors. missionary to Hawaii.

Faythe Rhors, missionary to Hawaii.

Edward Lehman, pastor.

John Nussbaum, pastor.

Ralph Ogden, pastor.

Dale E. Gerig, pastor.

Peter Strayer, pastor.

Paul D. Clasper. missionary to India.

John Clasper. pastor.

Jared F. Gerig. President of the Missionary Church Association.

This list of active workers may be incomplete

